MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

7 JULY 1982

Lebanon

Evacuation Plan, Reaction -- Under a plan which has been discussed between the United States and Israel for the past 3 days the United States is ready to send 1,600 U.S. Marines to west Beirut as soon as the evacuation of the "terrorists" begins, Jerusalem radio announced. The U.S. 6th Fleet will oversee the evacuation in U.S.-financed ships that will take the "terrorists" to several countries which have already expressed willingness to accept them, including Algeria, Syria, Iraq and Egypt, according to the radio. The radio noted that the "terrorists" were not excited about the idea of going to Libya and that west European countries pressured the United States not to send them there. It also said France had expressed willingness to send soldiers to Beirut to help man positions vacated by the "terrorists."

Meanwhile, both France and the PLO denied any participation in the evacuation plan, according to French and Palestinian media. While MENA cited Egyptian Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali as saying the Palestinians had agreed to leave Beirut under U.S.-French supervision, a responsible PLO spokesman cited by Monte Carlo radio contradicted 'Ali's statements and said no agreement had been reached on a Palestinian withdrawal from Beirut. A spokesman for the PLO Unified Information Office cited by the clandestine Voice of Palestine radio said the reports are only worthy of ridicule and added that "we will pay no more attention to these rumors than we did to the fairy tales about Egyptian ships" evacuating Palestinian forces. In Paris, PLO International Department Chief Faruq Qaddumi announced the PLO's rejection of all U.S. proposals for the Palestinian evacuation of Lebanon but expressed support for a French diplomatic initiative "which aims for withdrawal by Palestinians and Israelis," AFP reported. The Voice of Palestine subsequently reported that in a meeting with Lebanese representatives, PLO officials totally rejected the U.S. idea presented by the Lebanese and "thanked the Lebanese side for its sensitive feelings toward the Palestinian people." Emphasizing that the Palestinians will implement agreements reached with the Lebanese "in our own way" and without U.S. help, the PLO officials insisted on the proposals submitted by the PLO on 23 June.

However, the Jerusalem POST said Israeli officials have treated the PLO's public rejection of the U.S. proposal with skepticism. Jerusalem radio's Arabic service claimed that Lebanese Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan has told Saudi King Fahd that the PLO has agreed to withdraw all its armed men from Beirut within 48 hours.

In other developments, French External Relations Minister Claude Cheysson denied the Israeli report on the plan and said if it were true the whole Lebanese problem would be solved. Cheysson held talks with Qaddumi early on 7 July, according to AFP.

Begin on Evacuation Plan, Other Matters -- Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin, in a meeting with the Likud Knesset faction, said the U.S. readiness to send marines to help evacuate the "terrorists" from Beirut constitutes the turning point on the way to a political solution of the problem, IDF radio reported. Begin expressed hope that France will cooperate with the United States in the initiative to remove the "terrorists" from Beirut and disappointment that the French have openly sided with the PLO, the radio reported. The prime minister was optimistic about the chances for a political settlement in west Beirut but added that if such a solution is not found, military action will be taken, Jerusalem television reported. Begin said that at the beginning of the week U.S. envoy Philip Habib had achieved a framework for a settlement with the Lebanese Government and the PLO but Israel did not accept some points in this plan, such as leaving a PLO political bureau in Beirut as well as a token military unit in the Lebanese Army, according to IDF radio. However, Begin noted that the United States and Israel have already reached an understanding on these matters, especially that the PLO cannot remain in Lebanon. He stressed that after the PLO is evacuated, efforts to achieve a stable political settlement in Lebanon may take a long time and necessitate a prolonged IDF stay in the country.

Military Situation -- Israeli-Palestinian artillery exchanges in and around Beirut were renewed during the afternoon of 6 July, according to Voice of Lebanon radio. The IDF hit several Palestinian ammunition and weapons dumps, the radio noted. While IDF radio cited IDF statements accusing the "terrorists" of violating the cease-fire, Voice of Palestine radio said the Israelis were responsible for the resumption of the shelling. The radio accused the Israelis of using cluster, phosphorous and fragmentation bombs and said the Soviet Embassy had been damaged. Beirut radio said dozens of people in east and west Beirut were killed or injured in the shelling, which continued throughout the night until dawn on 7 July.

Jerusalem radio announced that the IDF intended to restore the supply of water and electricity to west Beirut during the evening. Beirut radio later said the supply of electricity had been restored. Earlier, Beirut radio noted that the IDF had tightened its blockade of the city of cutting off the crossing point in the port area and that while Lebanese Army personnel and diplomats were occasionally being allowed into the western sector, the Israelis were preventing the flow of foodstuffs into the area.

Syrian Activities -- If Israel and the United States think they can forcibly impose a certain formula and a certain government on Lebanon, the coming days will prove that any solution which is not based on national dialogue cannot survive, Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad said in remarks reported by Damascus radio. During the day, Al-Asad received Libyan Staff Maj 'Abd as-Salam Jallud before the latter's departure for Libya, according to Damascus radio and television reports. Meanwhile, the London daily ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT said that despite the resupply of the Syrian Air Force by Libya and the Soviet Union, Syria's Air Force is still weaker than before the Israeli invasion of Lebanon and its efforts to raise the level of the freindship and cooperation treaty with the Soviet Union have produced no tangible results.

Iran on Islamic Summit, USSR -- Iranian President 'Ali Khamene'i announced that Iran is ready to participate in the extraordinary Islamic summit conference called for by PLO leader 'Arafat, Tehran radio noted. Iran's deputy foreign minister criticized Soviet inaction over the Lebanese crisis, according to IRNA.

Israel

The civilian administration in Judaea and Samaria dismissed the Janin Municipal Council and appointed an ad hoc committee of local residents to run the area, Jerusalem radio reported.

Meanwhile, Bi'r Zayt students demonstrated against the war in Lebanon, according to Jerusalem radio.

Iran-Iraq Conflict

An Iranian push into Iraq "of course not with the incentive of occupation" is not improbable, Deputy Foreign Minister Ahmad 'Azizi declared in an interview with KEYHAN cited by IRNA. 'Azizi said this might be done to silence Iraqi fire on Iranian towns and to prevent the Iraqis from regrouping for any future aggression. He also observed that the only way for Iranian troops to reach Lebanon and fight the Israelis is to cross Iraqi territory. Likewise, Defense Minister Colonel Salimi stated that despite the superpowers' opposition, a push into Iraqi territory has become "inevitable" just as fighting the Israelis has become "unavoidable," IRNA reported.

Iran

Security forces killed or captured more than 150 Mojahedin-e Khalq activists in Khuzestan, according to Tehran radio.

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DOST: FLEXIBILITY SHOWN IN GENEVA TALKS

LD062006 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 6 Jul 82

[Text] The cooperation and organization department of the Council of Ministers reports that the periodic DRA Council of Ministers Executive Committee session was held yesterday at the headquarters of the Council of Ministers under the chairmanship of Soltan Ali Keshtmand.

DRA Minister of Foreign Affairs Shah Mohammad Dost presented to the Council of Ministers Executive Committee a comprehensive report about the DRA delegation's participation in the nonaligned countries' Coordinating Bureau session in Havana, the UN special session on disarmament and the talks between the Afghan and Pakistani delegations that took place in Geneva as a result of the efforts of Diego Cordovez, representative of the UN secretary general. The report was approved.

Shah Mohammad Dost said that the DRA delegation took an active part in all discussions by the foreign ministers at the nonaligned countries' Coordinating Bureau meeting in Havana. In the special session of the UN General Assembly which was devoted to disarmament, the Afghan delegation took a clear and principled stand on all aspects of disarmament including [words indistinct] and its prevention. The DRA representative at this session expressed firm support for the Soviet Union's constructive proposals on disarmament, which were reflected in the recent message by L.I. Brezhnev. These proposals are of major significance in preserving international peace and security.

Shah Mohammad Dost described as straightforward the talks that took place between the Afghan and Pakistani delegations as a result of the efforts of Diego Cordovez, representative of the UN secretary general. The Afghan delegation, while preserving the DRA Government's foreign policy principles, showed flexibility during the talks. The opposing side also showed a measure of flexibility. During the talks, issues concerned with procedure were generally solved and the actual issues were also discussed.

The DRA expressed support for the efforts of the UN secretary general and his representative Diego Cordovez, which prepared the ground for the talks between the two sides on a comprehensive solution of the issue.

Shah Mohammad Dost said that in light of the Geneva talks the DRA Government will continue its sincere efforts toward a political solution of the matter.

SOVIETS REPORTEDLY WITHDRAW FROM PANJSHER

BK061340 Hong Kong AFP in English 1252 GMT 6 Jul 82

[Text] New Delhi, July 6 (AFP) -- Soviet ground troops have been withdrawn from the strategic Panjsher Valley, 100 kms (60 miles) north of Kabul, following a futile Afghan Government offensive to dislodge the Moslem rebels entrenched there, Western diplomatic sources said here today.

The offensive, aided by several columns of armored troops and Soviet air strength spearheaded by SU-25 ground attack aircraft, high explosive parachute bombs and heavy artillery, failed to dislodge the rebels.

The diplomats quoted eye-witness accounts estimating the total strength of Soviet-Afghan troops sent to Panjsher at 12,000.

Independent confirmation of the Soviet withdrawal came from Asian diplomatic sources, who said, however, that there were tactical reasons for it.

The offensive began on May 17 and was one of numerous attempts by the government of Babrak Karmal to clear the valley. Indeed it was considered one of the most serious attempts made since the Soviet troops entered Afghanistan in December 1979.

The eye-witnesses said rebel leader Ahmed Shah Masud, who commanded the rebel forces, had about 7,000 men at his command. But his intelligence network and strategy were better than that of the government troops.

When the Soviet-Afghan troops entered the valley they found most of the villages deserted, but no sooner had they begun to celebrate the "victory", they were attacked from the mountains where the rebels had entrenched themselves, the sources said.

The armoured support arrived three days later, but the rebels took advantage of the narrow road leading into the valley where the tanks and the armoured personnel carriers were forced to slow down or stop because of jams and road conditions.

The diplomats said Masud and his men had captured weapons which had been distributed reinforcing the rebels in the surrounding areas.

Masud has claimed that his men had shot down at least 25 helicopters and three MiGs, but the Asian diplomats doubted it as eye-witnesses only reported to have seen the wreckage of two MI-8 transport helicopters.

The essence of Masud's strategy was to concede the low ground to the government troops and occupy high ground.

The Soviets bombed the area but many of the bombs reportedly failed to explode because of the difficulty of bombing an uneven terrain at a low altitude.

The Soviets resorted to dropping high explosive bombs with parachutes for proper impact and many deserted houses in the valley were razed to the ground. Eye-witnesses told the diplomats that in Astana village, between Rokha and Khenj, only three houses were left standing after the bombardment.

Meanwhile, the Kabul military hospital, in the Afghan capital, reported a sudden increase in the admission of wounded soldiers. Eye-witnesses told the diplomats that tents had been pitched in the gardens to accomodate the injured as the hospital corridors were full of patients and there was hardly any space to put up more beds. The hospital normally has a 400 bed capacity.

The diplomats said that the Afghan capital had seen a sudden spurt in daylight assassinations. On June 30 the son of a senior government official was gunned down and four days earlier a member of the ruling party's youth organization was killed. In addition, on July 2, at least 13 government militiamen were killed and in June, an unknown number of party loyalists were killed.

SPA Report

LD062156 Riyadh SPA in English 1921 GMT 6 Jul 82

[Text] Islamabad, July 6 (SPA) -- Afghan mujahidin have recaptured the strategic (?Khenjan) town and scored a series of victories in Panjsher Valley, Western diplomatic sources said here today. The sources said the mujahidin succeeded in beating last week's offensive by the communist Kabul regime on their stronghold in Panjsher, 10 kms north-east of Kabul.

"Days are numbered for the regime's presence in the valley," the sources added.

They said the Islamic freedom fighters (mujahidin) have launched attacks on Soviet-backed government troops in the first week of July at Bazarak, Rokheh and Anawa townships in the valley. "The attacks have resulted in loosening of the Kabul government's hold on parts of the valley," the sources added.

The sources said the mujahidin had attacked government vehicles passing through a highway leading from Kabul northward to Soviet borders and touching the western fringe of Panjsher Valley.

"Defections from government ranks are now quite frequent in Panjsher. Moreover, the communist regime is finding it difficult to maintain its presence in the valley," they added.

The sources said Kabul hospitals were overflowing with bodies of the regime's forces killed during an escalated fighting between mujahidin and Soviet-Afghan Government troops in areas adjoining the capital city.

A truckload of Soviet dead was also seen in Kabul after the mujahidin had ambushed a Soviet-Afghan column which had been on its way to Miadam Province [as received] west of Kabul on July 3.

The sources said "the decimated column was forced to return to Kabul. The sound of gunfire during the ambush was heard and the resultant smoke seen by citizens of the Afghan capital."

Kabul's Wazir Akbar Khan hospital received bodies of 22 members of the communist regime on June 29, they added.

The sources also reported an end of a hunger strike in the notorious Pol-e Charkhi prison, near Kabul. The strike was staged by former ministers belonging to Khalq (Peoples) faction of the ruling People's Democratic Party (PDPA).

"The strike has caused much embarrassment to the Kabul regime," the sources said.

37 SOVIETS KILLED; AFGHAN CHILDREN SENT TO USSR

GF041121 Karachi DAWN in English 30 Jun 82 p 9

[Text] London, June 29 -- Afghan freedom fighters killed 37 Soviet Army officers and advisers holding a meeting in the fashionable Herat Hotel.

The mujahidin received information on June 16 that an important meeting to discuss the mounting pressure of the mujahidin in the province was in progress. They knew all about the meeting through their sources in the official circles, launched a full-scale attack on this government-owned hotel and, after eliminating 23 Afghan security guards, succeeded in reaching the venue of the meeting. After killing the Soviet officers and advisers, numbering about 37, they returned safely to their base carrying the snatched arms and ammunition and two Afghan soldiers who had helped them carry out the operation. The bodies of three martyred mujahidin and four injured were also brought back to the base.

Seven hundred Afghan children between the ages of 6 and 9 years, drawn up from entire Afghanistan were sent to the Soviet Union for "mental recreation" by four flights on June 27 and 28, Kabul radio announced.

The broadcast did not indicate the period the "recreation" would last.

During the regime of Hafizollah Amin, too, 300 Afghan children were sent to the Soviet Union, out of whom 200 belonging to Afghan martyrs' families have not yet reached to their homeland. Last year, on July 28, four hundred children were sent to Russia.

According to Soviet social scientists, the conditions in Afghanistan were influencing the minds of the children; therefore, a maximum number of Afghan children were being sent to the country of the invaders for a brainwashing. -- AAP

DEFENSE MINISTER: PUSH INTO IRAQ 'INEVITABLE'

LD062040 Tehran IRNA in English 1942 GMT 6 Jul 82

[Text] Tehran, July 6 IRNA -- The defence minister, Colonel Salimi, said here today that, despite superpowers' opposition, a push into Iraqi territory has become inevitable just as fighting the Zionist aggressors was unavoidable.

Salimi said that the revolutionary Muslim nation of Iran, guided by Imam Khomeyni, has conveyed the true message of Islam throughout the world and denounced U.S. imperialism.

This gathering was attended by representatives of military and state organisations as well as those of the revolutionary foundations.

'AZIZI ON ENTERING IRAQ, SOVIET 'SILENCE'

LD062034 Tehran IRNA in English 1930 GMT 6 Jul 82

[Text] Tehran, July 6, IRNA -- Deputy Foreign Minister Ahmad 'Azizi stated today that an Iranian push into Iraq, "of course, not with the incentive of occupation" was not improbable, that in principle it was a basic and essential way to inflict a blow upon Saddam. He said the only way for the Iranian troops to reach Lebanon and fight against the Zionists, was to cross Iraqi territory, something which 'Azizi said may be done in an attempt to silence the Iraqi fire upon Iranian towns and to prevent regrouping of the enemy army for future aggression against the Islamic Republic.

Interviewed by the evening Persian daily KEYHAN the deputy foreign minister further stated that in case the Islamic combatants were allowed to cross Iraq unconditionally, then we could say that our forces would be prepared to play their real and fundamental role in Lebanon. 'Azizi stressed that the Iraqi Army had never fully withdrawn from Iranian territory and that several strategic points were still under enemy control.

In his interview with KEYHAN, 'Azizi also discussed the Islamic Republic's stand on the Lebanon crisis, Iran's opposition to cease-fire talks, the silence of the Soviet Union towards the Lebanon crisis, the situation of the Iranian combatants in Syria and Lebanon and the reasons for Haig's resignation.

The Zionist regime, 'Azizi stressed, aimed at occupying the Islamic lands and annexing them to its own usurped soil, from the banks of the Nile to the Euphrates, and he immediately went on to reiterate that Iran's stand against this strategy and tactic was to continue its ceaseless struggle, by relying on the power of faith and the dictum of 'Allah-o akhbar' [God is great], until the complete elimination of the Al-Quds usurper regime. He meanwhile rejected a cease-fire and any direct and indirect talks with the Zionist regime and the U.S. as long as the aggressor forces remained in Lebanon. He thus declared the Islamic Republic's opposition to the disarming and withdrawal of Palestinian and Syrian troops from Lebanon as well as to the destruction of the territorial integrity of Lebanon.

On the Soviet silence towards the Lebanon crisis, 'Azizi said it was regrettable that the Soviet Union, despite its announcements issued in condemnation of the Zionist aggression, enjoyed very limited resources for confronting the U.S. in this corner of the world. Nevertheless, asserted the deputy foreign minister, if the Soviet Union was honest in its claim to be against the Zionist regime and if it really believed that a fundamental movement should take place against the fulfillment of the ideals of the Zionist regime and the U.S., then as had been experienced in similar cases, it (the Soviet Union) could do something.

Mr 'Azizi said that those groups of Islamic combatants of Iran who had volunteered to fight against the Zionists were now on the Lebanese battlefronts, and he added that this participation would increase after Saddam had been done away with.

In conclusion, 'Azizi pointed out that Haig's resignation was in fact a political game to save the face of the U.S.'s reactionary friends in the region before the world public.

KHAMENE'I REPLIES TO 'ARAFAT CALL FOR SUMMIT

LD061818 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 6 Jul 82

[Text] According to a Central News Unit report, in his reply to a message from Yasir 'Arafat, PLO Executive Committee chairman, inviting Iran to take part in the extraordinary conference of heads of Islamic states in order to investigate the situation arising from the latest aggression committed by the regime occupying Jerusalem, Mr Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, referring to the incriminating silence of the heads of Islamic states and the need for all-round efforts by these countries on the problem of Palestine and Lebanon, and pointing out the particular sensitivity of the time, announced the Islamic Republic of Iran's readiness to accept the said invitation in conditions agreeable from the standpoint of the participants and the venue.

The text of the message from Yasir 'Arafat, PLO Executive Committee chairman, which was dispatched this afternoon, is as follows:

Brother President Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, president of the Islamic Republic of Iran:

Peace and God's mercy and blessings be upon you!

The problem of Palestine, as you may be aware, is going through a difficult period, thanks to the U.S.-Zionist aggression against Lebanon and the two peoples of Palestine and Lebanon and against the Palestinian armed revolution. On this basis I have extended an invitation for holding an extraordinary conference of heads of Islamic states to investigate the situation arising out of this aggression and I hope you will accept this invitation on the desired head-of-state level. We hope to receive your immediate and positive reply in this connection.

With our profound respects,

[Signed] Your brother, Yasir 'Arafat, PLO Executive Committee chairman

TEHRAN URGES PALESTINIANS TO CONTINUE FIGHT

GF050521 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 4 Jul 82

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Events in Lebanon are exacerbating in an incredible manner. The issue now is the method of the departure of the Palestinian forces from Beirut and what the PLO's program will be in the next stage. Yes, indeed, Israel has achieved the strategic objectives it has been dreaming of since its establishment in Palestine. These are objectives proclaimed by Ben-Gurion and Hertzl. However, how far can Israel go in achieving its expansionist aims?

After the achievement of its present aim, the departure of the Palestinian forces from Beirut, it will be the turn of the Arab Deterrent Force [ADF], whose fate will be the same as that of the Palestinian forces if they should agree to the enemy's demands.

After the departure of what Israel calls "the foreign forces," the stage of the total liquidation of Lebanese revolutionary forces will begin, so that the field will be clear for Israel to sign an agreement similar to the Camp David accords with the Lebanese Government, an agreement that would make Lebanon Israel's partner.

Israel is also seeking to appoint a president of Lebanon by force on the pretext of establishing a strong government in Lebanon. It is anticipated that the president will be one of its surrogates -- apparently it will be the military commander of the agent Phalangist Party, Bashir al-Jumayyil.

Israel is not alone in implementing this involved plot, which begins with the elimination of the Palestinian and Lebanese national forces and will end with the appointment of Bashir al-Jumayyil as president. All the reactionary Arab circles support this plot. Indeed, these circles are seriously seeking to facilitate all the steps in the Israeli plot. Some of these reactionary circles, Arab regimes which are surrogates of imperialism and Zionism, are trying to persuade the Palestinian Revolution -- through their agents, Lebanese figures who are well-known for their continual services to Zionism and U.S. imperialism -- to leave Lebanon. After persuading the Palestinians to leave Lebanon these reactionary circles will exert pressure on Syria to make it withdraw the ADF from Lebanon. The implementation of this conspiracy began some time ago when one of the wealthy regimes withdrew its financial support for the ADF, a support to which it was committed in accordance with the resolutions of Arab summit conferences.

The reactionary parties [words indistinct] election votes for the Zionist stooge, Bashir al-Jumayyil, to become president in September of this year. The visit of this stooge to At-Ta'if is part of the imperialist scheme being implemented by reactionary circles in the region, which have assumed the responsibility for putting the final touches to the last chapter of the conspiracy by having Al-Jumayyil assume office in Lebanon.

The question which these surrogate regimes may perhaps not be able to answer is: Why Al-Jumayyil for president? Is it because he is being chosen for this important part by Israel and the United States and all imperialist circles to become, as Israel wants him to be, a strong ruler? With whom will he be 'strong' and against whom?

It is clear that from the outset of its treacherous aggression against Lebanon, Israel sought to achieve the two objectives it proclaimed in its statements and in the words of its leaders. [sentence indistinct] The two objectives constitute the two ends of the plot which Israel is seeking to implement at present after having invaded Lebanon's most important strategic areas. Its approach toward B'abda palace [the seat of the Lebanese presidency] is but another proof of its intention to constantly interfere in Lebanese affairs -- an objective that can only be achieved with the appointment of a 100-percent surrogate ruler.

[Words indistinct] the plan needs some preliminaries, and some of the reactionary regimes in the area will take care of this. This is what we are witnessing now -- the attempt to exonerate Bashir al-Jumayyil of his crimes. He is fully responsible for all the crimes that have been perpetrated in Lebanon. He is also now responsible for the Israeli aggression, which would not have taken place but for the support it enjoyed from the Phalangist gangs. Today, Bashir al-Jumayyil's comrades are standing alongside the Israeli forces against the steadfast Lebanese and Palestinian peoples. How can this Zionist stooge who has committed all these crimes be innocent? How can he dare to assume the presidency of a country in which he is responsible for so many crimes? What state will Lebanon be in if Zionism and reactionary circles succeed in appointing this stooge to this important post?

This is the bleak picture of the international plot in which many parties are taking part, a plot aimed at Lebanon's independence, the freedom of its people and the dignity of its fighters. Will this plot succeed?

The plot's success or failure now depends on the stand of the Palestinian and Lebanese fighters toward the peaceful solution proposed by Israel and trumpeted by Arab reactionaries. The steadfastness of the Palestinian fighters in the face of the usurper enemy will be the ax that destroys Israeli dreams and the sick dreams of all reactionary rulers. Let the Palestinians ask themselves: Why did they carry arms? Did they fight and make sacrifices for this peaceful solution? Is it in order to put the Palestinian cause in [words indistinct]? Is it not in order to repulse aggression that they trained in the use of arms and carried arms? This is their hour. Israel, which they have yearned and still yearn to fight has come to their doorstep. So why lay down their arms in the hour of decision?

The historic hours through which the Palestinian cause is passing today depends on the determination of the heroic fighters in Lebanon. Resistance to Israeli aggression and turning a deaf ear to capitulatory solutions are the ways to liberate Palestine and mark the road to a bright future.

ARMED FORCES JOINT STAFF COMMUNIQUE NO 966

LD061746 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 6 Jul 82

[Communique No 966 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. Sporadic exchanges of fire have continued on southern and western fronts of the country. During the past 24 hours these exchanges have been more intense on the Abadan and Khorramshahr fronts. Details of the battles are brought to the attention of the dear compatriots:

On the Meymak front, sporadic exchanges of artillery and other heavy-weapon fire continued between our forces and the enemy. As a result of these exchanges two Saddamist tanks and one fuel tanker were destroyed. On other fronts of the border regions in Bakhtaran Province, the self-sacrificing combatants of the ground forces, in harmony with the other forces of Islam, are continuing mopping-up operations in the areas which have been liberated from the occupation of the destructive Saddamist forces. While consolidating their own defensive positions our forces have defused a large number of mines which the Saddamist forces had planted. The task of defusing and collecting the mines is continuing in earnest.

Exchanges of fire have continued on the Paveh and Marivan fronts. Thanks to the artillery fire of our ground forces, around 20 Iraqi troops were either killed or wounded in the Toveyleh and [name indistinct] sectors, and several of their trenches and foxholes were destroyed. Enemy movements and activities were prevented in the Hargineh region.

On the Khorramshahr front, the Islamic combatants' firing on enemy positions killed or wounded over (?20) of the infidel forces. Two enemy trucks and two trenches were also set ablaze.

During the past 24 hours, mercenaries of the Iraqi Ba'thist forces opened artillery fire on some districts of Abadan and Khorramshahr. As a result, 4 people were martyred and 23 others were wounded.

Yesterday several aggressive Iraqi planes tried to violate the airspace of Ilam and several other border cities in the south of the country. However, the vigilance and antiaircraft fire of the air defense units of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran forced them to flee.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

BUSHEHR RADIO ANNOUNCES RED ALERT 6 JULY

GF060551 Bushehr Domestic Service in Persian 0545 GMT 6 Jul 82

[Text] This is Bushehr, Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran. Dear listeners: Please pay attention. The siren that you will now hear indicates that an air raid is imminent. [sound of siren]

MUSAVI-ARDABILI SPEAKS ON WAR, ASSAILS SADDAM

LD021608 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 2 Jul 82

[Excerpts] Today on the second Friday in the blessed month of Ramadan, millions of our Muslim, combatant fellow countrymen have observed the political-religious rites of the auspicious Friday prayers. Meanwhile, as on previous Fridays Tehran University and its surrounding avenues -- where those who love God and walk the path of justice meet -- witnessed the vast participation of a mammoth throng of our revolutionary Tehran citizens -- who are ever-present on the scene -- in the august, immortal Islamic tradition of Friday prayers under the imamate of Ayatollah Musavi-Ardabili, Tehran's acting Friday imam.

Tehran's acting Friday imam devoted his second sermon to the various problems of the war, and said: We are an Islamic nation waging jihad, a vast and extensive jihad. Others give it another interpretation. Had we not spoken up, had we not risen and had we been the tool of the world powers, no one would have waged war against us. However, we felt our religious duty, we rose and began the struggle. We boiled over, raised our voices in clamor and followed Islam. We did not deem it permissible to be silent when faced with the world's great powers. They, in turn, started the war against us.

Referring to the expulsion of a group of Muslim Iranian students from Germany, he said: They are harming their international prestige with this deed. For our Islamic nation, which considers martyrdom as a cause for pride, the expulsion of a few students from a country is not all that important. We who are opposing Israel, we who are finally sorting out our account with the United States, we who are resisting the Saddamists and gaining all of this glory in the process will solve such problems quite easily.

Today I proclaim that such unworthy behavior cannot be used toward a rising revolutionary Islamic nation. Those countries that behave toward us in this unprincipled and inhuman manner should know that such action will have consequences.

Continuing his second sermon, Tehran's acting Friday imam referred to Saddam's alleged victories, which are tantamount only to abysmal defeat, and emphasized the fact that we would continue the war until we achieve our goals. He said:

[Begin Musavi-Ardabili recording] What did we achieve from this war? Did we achieve our demands? We did not. Why? We have not been able to achieve any of the things we wanted. Our demand was that this germ of corruption should declare his political life to be at an end -- either by his own hand, through world intervention or by our hand. His life is now at an end. Saddam and the Saddamists have no right to impose their satanical power on an area and on an Islamic nation that closely follows the Islamic order just so they could daily create headaches for us by attacking us whenever they wished. They would kill us, plunder us and, when they were defeated, they would effect a tactical retreat, reinforce themselves and attack us again! We cannot have this. The issue should be sorted out once and for all. As God is my witness, I say this with all my heart. Norhing will make up for our martyrs except the fall of Saddam and the destruction of the Ba'th Party. [applause and shouts of "God is great"]

These people do not seem to believe that we are independent. They still do not believe it. They think that they can wage war whenever they wish and have peace whenever they wish! Such a situation has been over for some time now. We are an independent Islamic nation. [passage indistinct] We are an independent nation. We prefer continuing the war a hundred times to having an imposed peace! [applause]

The blood of our combatant youths who are alive on the battlefields is not more precious than the blood of those who have fallen. "There are those who have perished and there are those who are awaiting their turn." [Koranic verse] The issue of war is our foremost issue. If we were to lose all of our young men, the old men would go the battlefields. [applause and shouts of "God is great, Khomeyni is leader"] If all of the men were to perish, the women would continue the war until we attained our goals. We will continue a war on two [as heard] fronts: on the Lebanon front, on the Jerusalem front, on the western front, on the southern front. All of this is one war. As our imam has said, the road to one front is through the other front. We will hurtle ourselves toward Jerusalem via Baghdad. [applause]

For 14 centuries we have taught our children and they have taught us that as Imam 'Ali's fruitful son stood up against a hail of enemy arrows waiting for them to strike, Imam 'Ali came to him before he resumed his attack and said: You have inherited this courage from your mother: [Fatima, daughter of the prophet]; my son will not be afraid to wage jihad in order to serve God on the battlefield.

Brothers and sisters: I bring you glad tidings! Saddam is dead; Saddam is exposed. Let him say: Five thousand of our soldiers were proudly taken prisoner, tens of thousands of our troops proudly went to hell and the rest heroically took to their heels! The Ba'thist logic cannot be any better than this. [end recording]

Continuing his second sermon, Ayatollah Musavi-Ardabili called on all those people who have military experience and who can bear arms to go to the fronts, even in the blessed month of Ramadan and in the holy nights, and bring us victory as soon as possible. This victory and this war are mandatory to us. We traverse this path in order to achieve either martyrdom, which is the height of our young people's aspirations, or victory forever.

In conclusion, Tehran's acting Friday imam read a sermon in Arabic for the benefit of our Muslim Arab sisters and brothers.

VELAYATI ADDRESSES SEMINAR ON REVOLUTION

LD021332 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 2 Jul 82

[Text] The Central News Unit reports that the seminar which began last Sunday, held by the headquarters in charge of organizing the 28 June celebrations with the participation of the scholars and instructors of the Qom religious seminary in Feyziyyeh School [in Qom] on the continuation of the revolution, ended yesterday afternoon.

At the last meeting of this seminar, which was attended by seminarians and various other people, Mr Velayati, minister of foreign affairs, spoke about the importance of following the policy of "Neither Eastern nor Western" in the continuation of the Islamic revolution.

Commenting on the fact that to date there has been no revolution in the world which has continued its course without dependence, he said: Our revolution has presented the world with the new belief that one can fight but remain independent; one can fight against America without depending on the Soviet Union; and one can fight against those who possess modern weapons and advanced technology without submitting to another great power in order to receive weapons.

Continuing his speech, he referred to the crimes of imperialism and Zionism in Lebanon and the similar behavior of the Soviet Union in Afghanistan and, addressing Islamic governments who are turning hopefully toward the East, he said: The 3 and 1/2 years of experience which we have gained from Iran's Islamic revolution leaves no room for anyone to doubt that it is only through reliance upon Islam, the power of the Muslims and independence from the East or the West that one can renounce the tyrannical domination of the superpowers.

According to this report, the seminar's resolution on the continuation of the revolution, drawn up in eight articles, was then read. In the resolution, which pays respect to the martyrs of the 28 June catastrophe, especially the wronged martyr Ayatollah Dr Beheshti, and the struggling martyr Hojjat ol-Eslam Mohammad Montazeri [son of Ayatollah Montazeri], and renews the covenant with these external martyrs in following in their blood-stained path, the rule of theocracy and canonist Islam are regarded as the only means for the continuation of the Islamic revolution.

The resolution also stresses the need to implement Islamic instructors and intellectuals by the esteemed scholars of the religious seminary in connection with the orders of the imam of the nation, and emphasizes the guidelines of Ayatollah Montazeri about unity between the clergy and students and the necessity of establishing greater cooperation between universities and religious seminaries. Also, in the resolution the slogan "Neither Eastern nor Western" is regarded as one of the basic means for the continuation of the revolution, and the heroic fighters of Islam have been requested to continue the war until the achievement of final victory and the attainment of all the legitimate demands of the Islamic nation and the downfall of the blasphemous regime of Saddam.

The headquarters in charge of organizing the ceremonies on 28 June has been asked that through cooperation with the religious seminaries and universities it should make arrangements for the holding of a great scientific and scholarly gathering at the beginning of the month of Tir [Tir begins 22 June] each year on the problems of the revolution, with the participation of Islamic intellectuals from all over the world.

NEGATIVE RESPONSE BY FRG TO COMPLAINT REPORTED

LD061202 Tehran IRNA in English 0900 GMT 6 Jul 82

[Text] Bonn, July 6 IRNA -- The Supreme Court of West Germany, as was expected, gave a negative response to the complaint of the Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Iran here, protesting a FDR's [as received] court verdict on the deportation of 17 Iranian students.

With this decision the FDR Government is now authorised to take measures for the deportation of these Iranian students. In protest to this verdict, the Islamic Republic of Iran had temporarily closed its diplomatic offices in West Germany.

A German court last week issued the deportation order for the said Iranian students who were among some 68 Iranian Muslim students arrested by the police in the city of Mainz. This incident took place about two months ago when the Muslim students were attacked by a group of Iranian counterrevolutionaries being protected by the German police.

Meanwhile the Iranian Ministry of Culture and Higher Education Monday strongly condemned the FDR court's measure, labelling it as part of a great wave of actions against the Islamic revolution of Iran.

KAZEMPUR-ARDABILI RECEIVES PRC AMBASSADOR

LD061950 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 6 Jul 82

[Text] According to the Central News Unit, the PRC ambassador in the Islamic Republic of Iran met and conferred with Mr Kazempur-Ardabili, Foreign Ministry under secretary of state in charge of economic and international affairs, this morning.

During this meeting they discussed the expansion of relations between the two countries and the upcoming visit to the PRC of an economic delegation from the Islamic Republic of Iran.

DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER MEETS WITH SAUDI CHARGE

LD061744 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 6 Jul 82

[Text] The Central News Unit reports that the charge d'affaires of the Saudi Arabian Embassy in the Islamic Republic of Iran met this morning with our country's deputy foreign minister.

At the meeting, issues concerning the two countries were discussed, and the deputy foreign minister explained the comprehensive offensive by world arrogance, led by America, against Islam and the Islamic revolution. He explained the views of the Islamic Republic of Iran concerning the aggression of the regime occupying Jerusalem against Lebanon and the direct cooperation of America in this aggression. In conclusion, the deputy foreign minister said that all the military, economic and political potential of the Islamic countries should be utilized in order to confront the usurping Zionist regime and its supporter, the criminal America.

KHOMEYNI APPOINTS NEW YAZD IMAM, REPRESENTATIVE

LD062048 Tehran IRNA in English 1946 GMT 6 Jul 82

[Text] Tehran, July 6, IRNA -- Imam Khomeyni today appointed Ayatollah Ruhollah Khatami as the new Friday prayers leader of Yazd Province.

Ayatollah Khatami, who will also serve as Imam Khomeyni's representative in the province, is to take the place of the late Ayatollah Mohammad Sadduqi, who was martyred last Friday in Yazd. After leading the prayers, Ayatollah Sadduqi was martyred by a member of the Mojahedin-e Khalq Organization who threw a bomb at him.

The martyred ayatollah was one of the top ranking ulema of the country who played a great role in Yazd, Kerman and Sistan va Baluchestan Provinces and who worked much for the welfare of the people.

AFP: QOTBZADEH TO STAND TRIAL 10 JULY

NC051235 Paris AFP in English 1225 GMT 5 Jul 82

[Text] Tehran, July 5 (AFP) -- Former Foreign Minister Sadeq Qotbzadeh will stand trial next Saturday accused of plotting to kill Iran's spiritual leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni, the newspaper KEYHAN reported today.

The paper quoted the official in charge of Qotbzadeh, Hojjat ol-Eslam Reyshahri, chairman of army revolutionary courts, as saying: "If God wills, next Saturday we will witness the judgement of Qotbzadeh by military court."

The former minister, who was arrested on April 10, is accused of taking part in a plot to kill Ayatollah Khomeyni and the main leaders of the Islamic Republic in order to seize power.

In a televised confession, Mr Qotbzadeh admitted participating in the plot and implicated one of the country's most prominent religious leaders, Ayatollah Kazem Shari'atmadari.

Since then, Ayatollah Shari'atmadari has been under house arrest at the holy city of God, 150 kms (90 miles) south of here and is no longer regarded as a religious dignitary by the authorities.

Hojjat ol-Esalm Reyshahri did not say whether the other people implicated in the plot -- the most serious since the Islamic Republic was set up -- would be tried at the same time as Mr Qotbzadeh.

ETTELA'AT REPORTS OPENING OF COUPISTS' TRIAL

GF061339 Tehran ETTELA'AT in Persian 27 Jun 82 p 1

[Text] ETTELA'AT News Service -- The trial of the first group of the organization of the plotters and coupists known as the Nima organization will start in the army's Revolution Court presided over by Hojjat ol-Eslam Reyshahri, tomorrow. This group consists of nine individuals who intended to overthrow the Islamic Republic by a coup d'etat. The trial will start at 1000 tomorrow in an open session of the army's Islamic Revolution Court and correspondents will be present.

The names of these individuals who were fed by the National Front in order to attain their inauspicious goals are: Colonel Azar Dehqan, Manuchehr Soluki, Dr Sharifzadeh, Dr Afsahr, Dr Jahangir Darwish, Karim Amir-Farzan, Kurows Sadri, Dr Baqeri and Purmusa.

One of the members of the Nima organization, during his interrogations, confessed: We had formed a cabinet for ourselves. Another of the accused, Manuchehr Soluki, during his interrogation, confessed: We intended to immediately introduce our cabinet following the toppling [of the regime] and those who had posts in the cabinet were: Colonel Azar Dehqan, prime minister; Manuchehr Soluki, minister of post, telegraph and telephone; Dr Sharifzadeh, oil minister; Dr Afshar, deputy agriculture minister; Dr Baqeri, minister of health and welfare; Jahangir Darwish, foreign minister; Karim Amir-Farzan, in charge of propaganda, radio, television and the press; and Kurows Sadri, minister of information and security.

ETTELA'AT REPORTS EXECUTION OF FORMER GENERAL

GF051225 Tehran ETTELA'AT in Persian 22 Jun 82 p 2

["Text" of communique issued by Public Relations Office of the Central Islamic Revolution Prosecutor's Office -- date not given]

[Text] In His exalted name. The martyr- and hero-nurturing nation is hereby informed that, in accordance with the orders of the Central Islamic Revolution Court, Bayuk Amini-Afshar, a lieutenant general of the former Imperial Armed Forces, has been sentenced to execution on charges of strengthening the foundations of the idolatrous imperial regime and for issuing orders to shoot at the people of the Muslim nation. The above verdict has been carried out.

ISLAMIC GUARDS KILL 75 INSURGENTS IN BUKAN

LD052106 Tehran IRNA in English 2016 GMT 5 Jul 82

[Text] Sanandaj, July 5, IRNA -- Seventy-five insurgents were killed and many others were wounded over the past week when the Islamic revolutionary guards recaptured the important (Dej Main) region, a suburb of Bukan, in West Azarbayjan Province. This region was an important base of the counterrevolutionaries for the past three years. The town of Bukan was recaptured in October 3, 1981 in a successful operation by the Islamic combatants.

6 KOMELEH MEMBERS KILLED IN KORDESTAN 5 JULY

LD062116 Tehran IRNA in English 2003 GMT 6 Jul 82

[Text] Sanandaj, July 6, IRNA -- Six counterrevolutionary elements of the outlawed Komeleh faction were killed Monday in a police operation in a suburb of Saqqez, Kordestan Province, by the Islamic combatants.

In this operation, 2 vehicles and some weapons of the insurgents were smashed by the Islamic forces, who also seized a large amount of the organization's internal documents and a revolver. Meanwhile, 4 insurgents surrendered themselves with their weapons to the Islamic combatants of Baneh, Kordestan Province, seeking writs of safe conduct Tuesday morning.

OPPOSITION GROUP IN BUSHEHR 'DESTROYED'

GF051020 Tehran ETTELA'AT in Persian 25 Jun 82 p 2

[Excerpt] Shiraz -- The Public Relations Office of District 9 revolution guards has announced the total destruction of the hypocrites organization in Bushehr and the arrest of the high-ranking members of the organization in the city. Part of the communique states:

The Revolution Guards Corps of District 9 is proud to have dealt a mortal blow to the hypocrites organization in Bushehr on the anniversary of the martyrdom of 72 of the imam's best companions. We inform the martyr-nurturing nation that the hypocrites organization was destroyed several times in Bushehr at the hands of the Guards Corps and the Hezbollahi nation. However, using the small remainder of their forces, they regrouped again in order to continue their crimes. Following the efforts of the brother guards to destroy the hypocrites organization during the past few months, including the arrest of Shahrokh Habibi -- the last organizational official of the hypocrites in Bushehr -- the discovery of safehouses and the arrest of the remaining elements of the hypocrites, the organization was completely destroyed.

In the process eight safehouses, together with large quantities of ammunition and arms, were discovered. They include: 1,086 rounds of various types of ammunition; a large quantity of handmade grenades; 1 roll of G-3 ammunition containing 45 bullets; 2 boxes of explosives; 1 Uzi and 2 full magazines; 2 G-3's and 8 magazines; 100 kg of gunpowder; and a quantity of explosive fuses.

OPPOSITION GROUPS 'TOTALLY DESTROYED' IN ARAK

GF061306 Tehran ETTELA'AT in Persian 27 Jun 82 p 4

[Excerpts] With the vigilant efforts of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps of Arak and the efforts of the Revolution Prosecutor's Office and Revolution Court, the entire organization of all minigroups opposing the Islamic Republic has been destroyed in the city.

This was announced by Hojjat ol-Eslam Qadyani, the Arak Islamic revolution prosecutor, in a special interview with the IRNA correspondent in the city. Stating that the entire group of hypocrites organization's members and the supporters of this warwagers operating in Arak have been arrested, he said: With the efforts of the brother guards we were able to discover a main gathering center of the minority minigroup [Feda'iyan-e Khalq]. As a result, we arrested 30 active members of this group, killed the head of the military branch of this minigroup and confiscated a considerable amount of arms, ammunition and propaganda equipment.

Discussing the trial of those arrested, Hojjat ol-Eslam Qadyani said: To date around 500 members and supporters of the warring minigroup have been arrested and jailed in Arak. Out of this number, 29 have been executed following trials. A group of them were released following interrogation and after they posted bail. The rest are in jail.

At the end of his interview Hojjat ol-Eslam Qadyani referred to Shari'atmadari's trial and said: From the point of view of Islam, the offender, whoever he is and in whatever profession, has to be punished. The bigger the title of the person, the more serious the crime. Therefore, Shari'atmadari must also be tried and punished.